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GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1837.

### Brief Hints for September.

Seed wheat should always be selected from the largest and finest part of the field; for as the product always partakes more or less of the nature of the seed, no pains should be spared to procure the best. In this way the variety may be constantly improved. Spare no pains to clean it effectually, so that not a grain of chess or other weed can be found by close searching. There will be weeds enough in all cases, without sowing the seed upon the land.

One of the best modes of preventing the ravages of the Hessian fly, and perhaps the only one of much value, is to sow wheat so late that it may come up after the first autumnal frost, where there is reason to apprehend its attacks.

All wheat fields, in the least degree liable to surface flooding, should be well supplied with well cleaned furrow drains.

In harvesting corn, always cut it up at the surface of the ground in preference to topping it, as the latter method has been found to diminish materially the crop, in some cases several bushels to the acre, as was proved by measuring. At the same time cutting it up gives us a much greater amount of fodder.

Where corn is nipped by a premature frost, the best method of securing the crop, is to set all hands at it with scythes before sunrise, so that it may be all prostrate before the heat of the day has melted the frost. The heat gradually emitted from the earth, then slowly thaws it, and as soon as convenient on the same day, it is gathered and properly secured. If the glazing process has commenced on the ear, the nourishment obtained from the slowly drying stalks, will ripen it sufficiently, and the fodder will be well preserved.

Seed corn should always be carefully selected; if the crop stands long enough in the field, it should be taken from the stalks before they are cut, in order that the selection may be more perfect. Look for those stalks which support two or more ears, and take the upper one only. This method, practiced for successive years, has greatly improved the variety and increased its productiveness.

As straw is always valuable, either for fodder when cut, or for the manufacture of manure, it should be carefully preserved. When from the thrashing machine, it is most conveniently secured by binding it in large bundles by means of hay ropes, as fast as it is thrown out from the machine. A sufficient number of hay ropes for this purpose may be previously twisted from a stack and placed in readiness.

Farmers who have hogs to fatten, will find if they will but try it, that common apples are as good for the purpose as any thing they can obtain, and far cheaper. If the number of hogs be large, it may be advisable to cook them, as this process greatly improves their quality.

Whenever grain is fed to hogs, it should always be ground, and not only ground but cooked. The advantage of these two processes combined is indeed great. An excellent way of preparing Indian meal, is to boil about one peck in a five pail kettle of water; this will furnish five pails of most excellent and nutritious feed.

Unlike fattening swine, very little advantage is derived from cooking food for cattle,—not sufficient to repay the labor and expense.

In all the experiments with feeding and fattening animals, accurate accounts should be constantly kept, the animals should be frequently weighed, and the best and cheapest food thus determined. The farmer will then know what he is about, instead of working in the dark.

IN THE GARDEN, early cabbages and cauliflowers for the next season, may be sown, to be protected by a frame and sash in the winter,—strawberries may be transplanted,—top onions set out,—hardy lettuces sown for spring use, to be covered during winter,—celery earthed up as its growth advances;—and the seeds of the pie plant put in the ground; but as these do not always vegetate freely, they should be planted in rich moist ground, which should be closely packed about them, and watered if necessary. This plant greatly improves the flavor of pies made from dried apples in spring, and is excellent for making tarts, &c. at a season when fresh fruit is hard to be obtained.

### The White Grub.

A correspondent in Walworth, Wayne county, in a late number of the Farmer, requested some information as to the grub that in some years infests fields, and the best mode of destroying them; and as nothing on the subject has yet been furnished us, we shall give a sketch of the history and habits of the insect, as possibly affording some hints which may be made useful in driving them from our cultivated fields.

The grub to which we presume our correspondent refers—though there are several other worms which are by some called grubs, such as the one that eats corn and cabbage at the surface of the ground—is the larvæ of a species of bug called the May-bug, beetle, cockchaffer, or horn-bug—the *Melolontha vulgaris* of late entomologists, (Scarabeus melolontha of Linn.)—and which is chiefly destructive to plants by feeding on their roots while in this state. These insects, in their perfect state, pass the day in a state of slumber or quietude in trees or places where their food is found, but at dusk the whole of them take wing for the purpose of procreation, or seeking food. Their flight is loud, humming, and as they seem to possess little power of directing their course, they strike violently against any persons or objects that may happen to be in their way. Their existence in the state of a perfect insect is supposed not to extend beyond a week to an individual, and the entire species, during each successive season, prevails only for the space of a single month. The male bug speedily perishes after the sexual union, and the female only survives to deposit her eggs. This she does by digging a hole in the earth five or six inches deep, by means of her dentated fore legs, in which she places her eggs regularly side by side, from which, at the end of three or four months, the grubs emerge in the shape of little white maggots, and immediately commence feeding on the roots of plants.

When the grub or larvæ has attained its greatest size, it is an inch and a half or two inches in length, slightly yellowish white, with a red head large and scaly, six short scaly feet, and two antennæ or feelers. The larvæ state of these insects is extended to four years, and as their food is not accessible during the cold season, they bury themselves sufficiently deep in the soil to be safe from the frost, and pass the winter in a state of torpidity. In the spring they shed their skin, and again commence their ravages on the roots of plants, gaining their greatest size and preparing for their metamorphosis the 3d year, the change taking place, or the bug issuing forth from the earth in the spring of the fourth year. The beetle when it first emerges from its subterranean cocoon, is pale and soft, but it soon acquires hardness, spreads its wings to the air, and is soon capable of performing all the functions and mischiefs of its short existence.

The number to which these grubs, and occasionally the perfect insect, arrive, is truly astonishing. In a very dry season, some years since, we saw acres of meadow, the turf of which perished, and might have been rolled up like a carpet, the roots of the grass being entirely destroyed by the grub, which existed in countless numbers beneath, as the slightest examination showed. In England they have at times been very destructive to trees and crops while in the beetle or perfect insect state, and Mouffet mentions an instance in which they perished in such numbers by falling into the Severn, as to clog the wheels of the mills on the river; and there have been years in which their appearance and ravages resembled that of an army of locusts. Speaking of this class of insects, Messrs. Kirby and Spence say: "One of the worst of these ravagers is the grub of the common cockchaffer. This insect, which is found to remain in the larvæ state four years, sometimes destroys whole acres of grass, as I can aver from my own observation. A number of years since, a poor farmer and his servant, near Norwich, gathered about eighty bushels of the beetle, and for this service, as well as part compensation for the injury they had caused him, the court of the city allowed him twenty-five pounds sterling. In the year 1785, many provinces of France were so ravaged by them, that a premium was offered by the government for the best method of destroying them."

The cases in which they have been numerous, or injurious, in this country, have been so few that public attention has not been much directed to their habits, or a preventive to their depredations; but as complaints at the present time are heard from various quarters, it is possible, unless timely measures of precaution are taken where they are already known to exist, that their numbers and their ravages may become formidable.

The habits of the beetle, and its different modes of existence, would seem to indicate that it may be successfully attacked, either in the state of larvæ, or in that of the perfect insect. That it is unable to resist severe cold, is evident from the precautions taken by the larvæ to descend into the earth to a greater depth than it usually inhabits, before assuming the torpid state for the winter. If therefore it could be exposed while in this state to severe frosts, it would doubtless perish, as will most other larvæ when exposed to cold. The period of feeding generally ceases the last of September or October, and deep ploughing at any period between this time and the freezing of the ground—the later the better of course—would be likely to turn up many of the grubs where the action of frost would speedily finish them. Lime in a caustic state, applied in considerable quantities, and mixed with the soil, will destroy the white grub, and most other worms that infest the earth and injure crops; and wood ashes, though less efficacious, are still beneficial. Salt is also fatal to them, but applied in a quantity sufficient to ensure the destruction of larvæ, it would also be destructive to vegetation.

In the state of the bug, or perfect insect, it is strongly attracted by light, as every one must have noticed by going to the door with a lighted candle, or placing one at the window during the short time they are active in the spring, and this disposition to seek the light may be used for their destruction. That this has already been done appears from a letter addressed by Mr. Kimball of Rutland, Jefferson county, to the Cultivator, in which he says: "Efforts should be made to destroy the insects before they deposit their eggs, which may be done in a great measure by keeping a steady flame in the fore part of the evening, (for they do not fly more than an hour,) and they will fly from one to two hundred yards to get to it, and are sure to find their end. I witnessed the effect of it in 1835: one of my neighbors made a fire of dry brush, and kept up a steady flame for three quarters of an hour, and it was incredible to witness the number that flew into it. The fire was over 100 rods from my house, and as soon as the light was visible, the bugs all left thumping at my windows, where they were attracted by the light of the candles, which gave me just reason to believe they

went to the fire, and the land has since been clear from the grub for the same distance round the fire."

It is evident this remedy is available for only a few days in the spring, but if the practice of making bright fires at suitable distances, where the bug shows itself in any numbers, was generally adopted, they would speedily be thinned, as the eggs from which they are produced could not be deposited in the soil. If to this was added late fall ploughing for the destruction of the grub already in the earth, it is probable all would be done that in ordinary cases would be necessary to render their numbers harmless, if not to effect their extermination. If, as our friend in Walworth intimates, the ground infested with the grub is now in corn and barley, a pretty sure criterion may be formed of the danger to which a wheat crop succeeding would be exposed, from their action on these. If these escape injury, we see no reason why wheat also should not go untouched, though it is evident where the grubs exist the roots of all plants are more or less liable to attack.

## Education for the People—No. 2.

What then is the kind of education required by the wants, and adapted to the circumstances of the many; one which shall be a decided advance on the system of common school education, and yet neither difficult to obtain, or costly in the acquisition? We answer at once, *increase their acquaintance with Nature.* In our generally received systems of education, the book of nature to the child remains a sealed book; and while the memory is burdened with many things which can scarcely be of use in after life, those things are neglected which would make learning a delight, and study a pastime.

What interests a child more than a flower; and while admiring their beauties, how easy would it be to impart such a knowledge of plants, of their general speies, distinctions, &c. as would not only remain through life, but awaken enquiry, and render study an amusement, by opening a new source of discovery to the active mind. A competent knowledge of botany is indispensable to the farmer, who wishes to reason of what he does, and understand the nature and habits of the plants among which his occupation so much lies. So might a lesson equally important, perhaps, be read on a shell, a pebble, or a bit of clay. The varieties of earths, their importance in the arts, and in agriculture, their combinations and the effects, illustrated as they might be by examples of each kind, and collected specimens, could hardly fail to arrest the attention of an inquisitive and ever active child. What other picture in nature, equals in grace and beauty, a child pursuing a butterfly?—all happiness, ease, and motion; and when caught, what an opportunity to impress on the plastic mind, the great peculiarities of the insect tribe, with their heaven taught instinct, their wonderful transformations, and ever varying changes. To the agriculturist the ability to hold a plough is scarcely more necessary than an acquaintance with the habits, appearance, and transformations of the insect tribes that so seriously depredate on his fields, and diminish the product of his labor. Lessons so illustrated would be a delight—specimens would be to the study of nature what maps are to that of geography—and no one who has witnessed the pleasure with which children become collectors, can doubt that opportunities would be wanting for the purposes of instruction and illustration. Children have long had access to books; there must be an advance, and the volume of nature affords a delightful resource. They have as it were stood on one foot long enough; let them now try another; will they stand less firm? In schools composed mostly of boys the mechanic arts form another subject, which might be taught and illustrated to advantage, and thus afford a knowledge interesting to all, and more or less important to most men. That was a happy regulation in Holland which ordained that every child, in every class of society, from the king to the peasant, should be taught some useful occupation; some business by which the rich in case of adversity, might obtain a living, and which should give to the poor the means of competence; and to the honor of the present king, let it be said, his trade is that of a basket-maker. This fact alone, accounts fer the industrious habits, and almost total banishment of poverty and beggary from among the population.

Nothing can be more clear than that children are not all adapted to one mode of life, and cannot of course be equally profited by one system of education. The taste, genius, capacity of children are different, and advantage should be taken of this circumstance, or schools will be established and maintained to very little profit. Habit does much towards forming the characters of men; the mind as well as the body gradually accommodates itself to the circumstances, in which it is placed, and contracts or expands as these dictate: but beyond habit, and lying more deeply, there is something peculiar to the individual, something now dormant perhaps, but only requiring an opportunity to show itself,—some exciting cause to awaken it into activity, and give a different coloring and character to the destiny of the man. To do this is the business of education. To develope the individuals genius and capacity, to urge, direct, control, should be the tendency of every system, and the one which does this the most effectually, should certainly be preferred. We ask then every man of sense, or learning, every parent who has children to be instructed; whether the narrow system adhered to in our common schools,—a system once perhaps adapted to the wants of the people—or one based on the broad and comprehensive principles we have merely hinted at, would be the most likely to fulfil the above requirements. We cannot doubt the answer.

## Frost of August 5th.

This extraordinary event occurring in the middle of summer, has been more severe and extensively destructive than was at first supposed could have been the case. In places liable to early visits of frost, as is the whole section south of the ridge dividing the waters of the lakes from those that flow southwardly, and in many places to the north of this ridge, vegetation it is ascertained has suffered greatly. On the low lands, garden vines, buckwheat, and in many instances potatoes and corn, have perished—so far lessening the means of subsistence on which many have depended.

The low temperature of the nights of the the 4th and 5th of August, furnishes a striking illustration of the rapid radiation of heat under favorable circumstances. During these two days the sky was cloudless, the wind from the north, and the atmosphere remarkably pure and transparent. In the sun the influence of the rays was not sensibly diminished, but it was so rapidly radiated as to produce little effect in diminishing the chill of the northern current of air. The thermometer ranged during these days between sunrise and sunset from 48° to 65°, but when the sun set, the mercury fell almost at once to 44°, and on the evening of the 5th at ten o'clock stood at 38°. On the morning of the 6th at sunrise the thermometer was at 40°, and the ground was white with frost, and in some instances water exposed in shallow vessels was frozen over. It would thus seem that in cases favorable to radiation, frost and ice occur on the surface of the earth, when at five or six feet in height the temperature remains permanently some six or eight degrees above the freezing point.

## WHEAT CROP, &c.

*Skaneateles, 8 mo. 21, 1837.*

Respected Friend, Luther Tucker--Lately I made a call at thy office to ask thee to redeem the pledge which I believe thou made in the Farmer a considerable time since, of giving to its readers some account of the inventor of the Revolving Hay-Rake. Many of us farmers are much indebted for this useful implement, and I for one am as ready to acknowledge indebtedness to a colored brother as to a white one, and I therefore solicit thy attention to the promise, and desire its fulfilment.*

Another object in calling was to obtain the address of thy correspondent, Cornelius Plocker of North Murray, for had his habitation lay near my route, it would have been a pleasure I should not have denied myself, of cordially taking him by the hand, and compared notes on other subjects than road making.

Thou wilt see by this that I have been in the western part of this state, and feeling disposed to offer a few remarks on the present prospects of the farmer, may inform thee I left home after the frost of the fifth, and went as far as Lockport, taking the route over the free bridge through Vienna, Manchester, Farmington, Perinton, Rochester, and thence by the ridge road, and back the same way, excepting going from Farmington to Canandaigua, and returning there again. The effects of the frost were not perceptible, until I got beyond the influence of the lake, which was about three miles distant, when my attention was drawn to a piece of potatoes sadly cut, and turned black; nearly opposite on the other side of the road it had bitten a piece of corn. These crops, and especially buckwheat, in many places are much affected—the corn in some places nearly destroyed, and considerable portions of pieces of buckwheat shared the same fate; these effects were caused principally in swails and wet lands. The pumpkin vines here and there were partially or totally destroyed. The crops of spring sown grain, barley and oats, may be said to be almost universally very abundant, both in straw and product. I wish as much, or something approaching thereto, could be said of the wheat crop. Thousands of mankind obtain all their knowledge of the products of the husbandman's toils through the newspaper press, and this medium often attacks the producer, the middleman, or the miller, in vituperative terms, as though their interests were separate and apart from the rest of the community, and abound in exaggerated statements of remarkable good crops of wheat this season. I am aware farmers are almost always thought to be croakers when speaking of their crops or circumstances, but I care not for it in offering the result of my observation on the crop denominated the staff of life.

Wheat in the spring, after it commenced growing, did so luxuriantly, and continued its rapid growth, promoted as it was by continued rains. I am not philosopher sufficient to prove that rust is produced by superabundant moisture, although I believe it to be so, and that the disease may be accelerated by heavy sultry weather, such as we have had considerable of this summer; be it as it may, the effects of the rust are truly deplorable, and from it many farmers' fair prospects of a good crop of grain are blasted. From this village, following the road named to Lockport, it is my opinion that the wheat crop does not exceed ten bushels per acre. This applies to wheat sown last autumn, for of spring wheat the crop is good and free from rust. Potatoes are likely to be generally abundant, and will in some degree come in to help fill up the deficiency occasioned by the wheat crop. It was pleasant to observe the increased attention to the culture of turneps, and that the ample products will fully compensate for the care bestowed, especially on the Swedes, of which I saw many very fine pieces.

The object of these remarks is to call on some of thy contributors to let thy readers know what the general crop of wheat is likely to be, taking the country as a whole. Will it equal that of 1836?—and if not, is it not wisdom to make early provision, so that we may not be drained of our specie in paying for imported wheat. It is said the value of that article imported last year amounted to *seven millions of dollars!!!* It may be asked, if our own crops are short, what can be done to enable us to do without such a great importation? I answer, *early* frugality in our private dwellings, and care to avoid the waste which is so apparent at hotels, taverns and canal and steam-boats. Who has not noticed at these places the large portions of bread, with perhaps only a small bit broken from a good sized piece, laying in the dinner plate to be taken away by the waiter? This may appear small detail, and not called for by circumstances. I can truly and honestly say, I hope it is not, but it will not do to shut our eyes from facts; those I have mentioned may perhaps be only local.

That which caused, as I believe, the rust to the wheat in this state may, for *want* of rain in other states, cause de-

*We think the writer must allude to a call for the name and history of the inventor of the Horse Rake, made in the Farmer a year or two ago. If any of our readers will furnish the desired information, we shall give it to the public with pleasure.—Editor.

ficiency of the wheat crop. I know from actual observation, and the united remarks of all that I heard speak on the subject in Virginia, that their crop of wheat would be short on account of *lack* of rain. What little clover and grass they grow was exceedingly short in that part of the state in which I visited.

I should feel much interested in reading thy correspondents' observations on the wheat crop in their respective neighborhoods, and thou mayst tell us what it is about Rochester.

As several agricultural societies have offered premiums for turnep and other root crops, and not knowing how the relative proportions to each competitor's crop can be ascertained but by scales and weights, I subjoin the following table, which may be of use to farmers generally, and judges appointed by societies to award premiums.

| Per square yard | Ton. | Cwt. | lbs | Per square yard. | Ton. | Cwt. | lbs. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 lb. | 2 | 3 | 24 | 8 lbs | 17 | 5 | 80 |
| 2 " | 4 | 6 | 48 | 9 " | 19 | 8 | 104 |
| 3 " | 6 | 9 | 72 | 10 " | 21 | 12 | 16 |
| 4 " | 8 | 12 | 96 | 11 " | 23 | 15 | 40 |
| 5 " | 10 | 16 | 8 | 12 " | 25 | 18 | 64 |
| 6 " | 12 | 19 | 32 | 13 " | 28 | 1 | 88 |
| 7 " | 15 | 2 | 56 | 14 " | 30 | 5 | |

To ascertain the weight, as a square yard is too minute a division of an acre, take a nine foot rod and measure a square of nine feet, which is equal to nine square yards; weigh the produce and divide by nine; this gives the weight per square yard. It should be understood that these weights are those termed long hundreds, that is, 112 lbs. each. Thy friend, JAS. CANNINGS FULLER.

P. S. To illustrate what I have written, I heard of a farmer who had thirty-five acres of land sown to wheat, the crop of which would not furnish bread for his family; and another who had bought twenty acres of wheat at $20 per acre, and now offers to sell the twenty acres for $20; and there are fields which will not pay for harvesting, and will be fed off by cattle and hogs, and that which they leave set on fire and the land prepared for sowing to wheat this season.

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Extract of a letter from our correspondent at Otisco, dated Aug. 19:—"It is enough to sicken one to witness the change which a single week or fortnight caused in our wheat crop. Some pieces are destroyed totally, some injured slightly, and many not touched at all. Still the effect in lessening the sum total must be very great. There is a great press for labor, the unfavorable weather from the 12th to the 18th preventing much wheat from being cut, and now when we have the sun again the necessity for securing becomes doubly urgent."

### General Principles of Draining.

Wetness in land procceeds either from rain water lodging on the surface or from subterraneous water confined in the bowels of the earth, which, by its own pressure, forces itself to the surface in the form of springs. On tenacious clays that are nearly level, wetness is often produced by the first of these causes, but it much more frequently proceeds from the latter. It is necessary to be able to distinguish from which of these causes the wetness proceeds, to insure success, (for *surface draining*, when the water is subterraneous, can only alleviate the effect, in place of removing the cause,) to accomplish which, requires no small extent of knowledge of the nature and source of springs.

The earth is composed of strata of very various kinds, which, when applied to draining, may, without regard to their other characteristics, be divided into two classes, viz., *porous* and *impervious*. All those kinds of strata whose less coherent essential parts receive water freely, and through which it runs with ease, such as rotten rock, gravel, sand, and loamy clays, are called *porous*. On the other hand, tenacious clays, and a certain kind of gravel, having a proportion of clay in its composition which, by binding the small stones together, renders it equally as impervious as clay itself, and such rock as is of a close and compact nature, without any fissures in it, are the principal strata that resists the reception of water, and are therefore called *impervious*. Springs undoubtedly originate from the rain and snow water subsiding through porous strata, till it meets an impervious stratum that presents an obstruction to its further descent, and here forming a reservoir or considerable collection of water, it is thus forced either to filtrate along such a substance or rise to the surface, where it oozes out in those different ways that are so frequently met with. When the stratum which contains the water composes part of a hill or rising ground from which the water has descended, it will force its way to the surface wherever it finds the easiest passage; this is sometimes by a natural outlet, but often this is not apparent, and it is confined so near the surface as to injure it by constant moisture, or by oozing imperceptibly through any small pores in the soil. The great object, therefore, in draining is to cut off entirely the source of springs or subterraneous water, which causes the wetness, by flowing over the surface or being confined beneath it. This was discovered by Mr. Elkington, whose leading principles are, *first*, to find out where the water lies in different soils and situations, and under what circumstances; *second*, to lay out the drains so as most effectually to remove the water; *third*, to make the drains the most perfect for this purpose, either by digging alone, or by digging and afterwards boring in their bottoms with an auger—the chief object being to dry the ground effectually and at the least expense. When the subterraneous water lies at such a depth that the level of the outlet will not admit of a drain being cut so deep, or where the expense would be too great, the auger is used to make bore-holes in the bottom of the drain, through which the water rises by its own pressure. The truth of the principles of this system of draining has been proved by the extraordinary results which have attended it, not only in this country, but in others, as will be seen by the annexed account of draining in Sweden. By it not only the land that was intended to be drained, but also springs, wells, and wet ground at a considerable distance, with which there was no apparent communication, have been made dry.*

### Draining Bogs and Marshes.

The bogs and marshy grounds injured by springs, which form a very great proportion of the wet land of this country, are thought by many incapable of being drained; but however impracticable it may appear, the many thousand acres which have been lately brought into cultivation, not only show that they can be easily drained at little expense, but that when they are made dry, they are, in many instances, more valuable than the lands in their vicinity. It is quite apparent that bogs and marshy grounds originate sometimes from water breaking out of the adjacent heights, in a regular line along their upper side—at other times from springs rising promiscuously over the whole surface, forming generally what are called *welleyes;* but more freqently from both causes conjoined, and forming quagmires, which shake all around, so as to be dangerous for a person to walk across: they are easily distinguished at a distance by the verdure of the grass around the *welleyes.* Under the peat earth, which varies in depth from five to twenty feet, and, in some instances, more, a bed of clay is sometimes found, and under that a stratum of sand or gravel; but, in others, the whole of the sub-strata is composed of the same substance as the adjacent eminences. The clay bed between the moss and the porous stratum being in many places, very thin, the pressure of the water in the high ground forces that with which it is connected under the bog through the more porous part of the clay and moss to the surface, forming the appearances just mentioned. Such are the general features of bogs and marshes; nevertheless, in every district of the country, much ground still lies waste from the same cause, although containing no peat, on which the same mode of draining ought to be resorted to.

In draining boggy or marshy ground, the first thing to be considered is the best direction for the outlet, and to ascertain its level; the next thing is to fix the direction in which the drains are to be cut. When the water breaks out on the upper side of the moss, a drain must be carried along the line of the wetness, sufficiently deep to intercept it, with outlets to the cross drains, which must be cut such a depth as to suit the level of the outlet. If the extent of land to be drained is considerable, it is advisable to divide the whole by open drains into fields, according to the position of the ground. The drains must be made from five to six feet deep, and when this depth does not reach the bottom of the moss, or to the stratum containing the water, bore-holes or wells must be made in their bottom, through which the confined water will rise by its own pressure to the bottom of the drain, so that it will be reduced to the same level. The bore-holes are made with an auger about five inches in diameter; but when the moss or peaty earth is so soft that they will not keep open, wells filled up to the bottom of the drain with small stones must be made. These operations will not only prevent the springs from the adjacent high grounds overflowing the moss, and remove the subterraneous water, but will also, in most cases, completely free it from surface, water, proceeding from rain or snow; when, however, any of the latter remains, it must be remedied by wedge or shoulder drains made from the moss itself, which, if properly executed, and vermin, such as moles and water mice, prevented from injuring them, will last for twenty or thirty years.—*Stephens' Practical Drainer.*

* The author experienced a case of this kind lately in draining some fields for Lord Willoughby de Eresby, in Lincolnshire, where a well, in the possession of the tenant, about a mile distant from the operations, was completely drained.

### Destruction of Insects.

How often does one enter a garden with the cabbages all dissected to shreds, by caterpillars, and the owner inquiring of every one for some recondite mode of killing them; when, if he would offer two or three lads a penny a quart for all they could pick off, his cabbages would be cleared of every assailant in a few hours; and in the same way he might have the aphides crushed off of any plant particularly valuable, and the caterpillars collected from the gooseberry bushes, by shaking them suddenly over two or three newspapers laid round them. Even on a large scale, it might be worth trying, if it would not answer to employ the boys to brush them off, with some light kind of whisk, the aphides from hops, when extensively attacked, on sheets spread out below, when they could be easily collected and destroyed: and if a few thousand ducks can clear a district of turneps from the blacks, there seems no reason (seeing that, however fast the ducks gobble, their stomachs have no great capacity. and must therefore soon be filled,) why an array of boys, collected from the neighboring villages, might not clear the land quite as effectually, and with little greater cost, in the end.—The mischief is, that in England, [and America too,—*Cond.*] we are prone to take it for granted that certain evils are irremediable, without ever fairly trying to remove them. Thus, if our hedges or trees are generally and extensively infested with caterpillars, we should laugh at the idea of getting rid of them by manual operations; and yet the French and Belgians, in similar cases, constantly employed such means; and, in fact, the municipal authorities every year enjoin, by printed notices and fines for non-compliance, on the proprietors of the land, *echeniller* to cut off [the points of the shoots infested,] their trees. Even the very Turks (in such matters less fatalists than ourselves) have the goods sense to send out whole armies to collect locusts, and to destroy them, (as mentioned in the papers in a recent instance) by thousands of bushels. —*Extract of a letter from Mr. Spence the Entomologist, in the Gardener's Magazine.*

### Wheat Fly driven by Smoke.

Mr. Jeremiah Stinchfield of Danville informs us that he found the wheat fly very numerous on his wheat a little before sunset; the next day about noon, he set fire to brush that was piled up by the side of the wheat, and the wind wafted the smoke in abundance all through the wheat. He afterwards examined the wheat frequently, and did not find any of the flies. He thinks that the smoke must have been the cause of their sudden disappearance. They had already deposited eggs, and the worms have injured his wheat considerably. Perhaps he did not smoke them early enough to save all.—*Yankee Far.*

### A Fat Gooseberry.

We have been presented with a gooseberry from the garden of Franklin Glazier, Esq. of this town, weighing 9-16th of an ounce—is 1 3-16 inch in diameter, 1 5-8 inch long, and about three inches and a half circumference. If any of you can beat that—we should like to have it done.—*Me. Farmer.*

### Wheat Culture in Virginia.

Mr. Holmes:—I send you an account of the method of raising wheat in Old Virginia. If you think any thing is contained in it that may be useful to our farmers, you may publish it. ———.

The wheat crop in Virginia,is of vast importance, calling into action the energies of the anxious farmer, who is more peculiary engaged during the two interesting seasons of sowing and reaping.

The manner of cultivating the land intended for this grain differs with the variety of soil, the kinds of which, in the eastern part of the State, may be confined to two classes, the "Stiff" and the "Light."

There are various opinions with regard to the best method to prepare these for the reception of "small grain," yet the experienced agree in one particular that the former should be thrown up; and the latter thrown down, or "fallowed." In these respects, as also on account of its high state of improvement, "corn land," or that from which the crop is just gathered, is admirably well suited: and thus the prevailing custom is to appropriate such for wheat.

If the weather is favorable and the situation of its predecessors permits, the season for "sowing" commences about the 10th of October.

Accordingly as soon as possible, ploughs are started in the "stiff" lands to heighten the lately occupied beds, if needful, as also to "turn in" the vegetable matter. The sower, with his basket of wheat, then proceeds along the "alleys," and disposes of the grain with skill and judgment, apportioning the quantity to the condition and quality of the land. To the acre of good, 3 pecks or more is allowed: for that of poor or common light land, half that quantity of wheat is often sufficient.

In many instances, persons sow previously to ploughing, then they use a small plough, and afterwards other implements, if necessary, are set to work. This method is chiefly resorted to in the management of light lands, as also is the process of harrowing in the grain, the plough being dispensed with.

But such as may be adequately cultivated by this latter course of treatment, is by no means adapted to wheat, and the farmer sees that he is not recompensed when he puts it in wheat. This saying has become proverbial in the 'Old Dominion,' "Give us stiff land for wheat."

To conclude the plain of seeding, which it was first designed to give: when some progress is made in sowing, harrows proceed to cover in the grain:

"The Harrow follows harsh, and shuts the scene."

Which being done, some use Rollers. The pursuit of the system of rolling is advisable on some accounts: There is a probability of the grain's sprouting more immediately than when the earth is loosely thrown around it only,and with other advantages, there is, comparatively, quite a protection secured.

If a warm spell occurs soon after the wheat is sowed,there is danger to be apprehended of an attack by the "Fly," whose appearance is productive of serious consequences, and is deprecated by the Farmer. It takes possession at a peculiarly tender stage of the growth, forming its nest among the sprouts, the ruinous effects of which do not appear till the spring, when the fly is discovered by the hardness and slenderness of the stalks. Much trouble and loss may be expected in raising the golden crop, for unfavorable seasons produce various causes by which it is shortened in quantity, and rendered inferior in quality. The rust, blast, and smut, combined with some other maladies, conspire against it, leaving no recompence for care and industry. Of course the failures, from what has been said, occuring occasionally only, do not discourage the farmer, for frequently a barren season precedes a plentiful and more abundat year.

Some advocate the plan of rolling the wheat early in the spring. The frost and freezes leave the earth in such a state, that it is evident that the result of this process would be beneficial.

It is an evidence of much neglect for the farmer to sow grain with cockle, onion, or cheat, intermixed; when these pests do appear, the diligent and systematic have them gathered as soon as distinguished.

As the harvest approaches, barns are fitted up,or preparations to "stack" are made; implements of various kinds, used in securing this valuable commodity, are repaired, or made, if wanted, and all things are in readiness, that when the famous season arrives, all hands may be profitable engaged.

Some experience is required to ascertain when wheat should be cut. Various stages are specified as appropriate for that purpose. In order to manufacture superior flour, grain should have just passed the "dough state:" for "seed," it may remain to be matured, before it is cut.

What is called "forward wheat," is cut in June, but this bears a small proportion to the bulk of the article made, the harvest of which occurs in July. It is quite an interesting sight to observe the reapers, in their capacity of skilful and celebrated mowers, following each other in quick succession, and vying to excel. In Virginia a scythe is attached to a cradle, which serves to gather in, and retain the stalks as they are clipped off in the handy sweep of this implement, from which the reaper disposes of the wheat conveniently for the rakers, and those who proceed in a few hours after him, to shock, or otherwise take charge of it. After wheat is cut and secured in the straw, it should remain so three weeks or more.

The season for "getting out grain," is about the middle of August. It is well to attend to this matter during this month, even though it may not be prepared for market: for if it is out of the straw there is more security. If care is not taken this little insect, which germinates in the grain, will appear. To guard against this, the wheat is passed through a "heat" which effectually anticipates its existence.

There are those farmers in Virginia, who raise from 300 to 2000 bushels of wheat. They use machines operated generally by horse power, which clean from 200 to 400 bushels per day. Smaller farmers making 100 to 300 bushels pursue the old and clumsy method of "treading out" with horses.—*Maine Farmer.*

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### Spring Wheat.

We find the following interesting letter marked for our insertion in the Lexington (Va.) Gazette of the 4th instant, and while we publish it with pleasure, we commend it to the perusal of our agricultural readers with the more readiness, as it comes from a practical farmer of intelligence.

And we hope that the other farmers in the neighborhood of the writer who have tried the same crop, will avail themselves of the opportunity afforded by the wish expressed by him, and favor the public with their experience and views upon the value of this variety of wheat, as whether the result of their experience be favorable or unfavorable, much good will arise to the farming interests. If favorable, the culture may be advantageously extended; if otherwise, the sooner those reasons which may have operated to produce such opinion are known the better, as it will enable those who have not made the experiment to profit by the experiments of those who have.—*Far. and Gard.*

SPRING WHEAT.

We ask the attention of the farmers of the county to the following valuable communication from one of our most intelligent and successful agriculturists. They will no doubt concur with us in the opinion, that he richly deserves the thanks of the community for his efforts to extend the cultivation of this valuable grain, (Spring Wheat,) which will secure an almost certain crop of the great staple of the Valley. We expect further information upon the subject from other intelligent farmers of this vicinity. We hope some of them will grind a small parcel of the Wheat, so as to test the quality of the flour. The remainder they will no doubt distribute liberally among their brethren of the plough.

August 1st, 1837.

C. C. Baldwin, Esq.

Dear Sir:—Your note of the 27th ult. requesting information in relation to my success in the cultivation of the Spring Wheat, was not received for several days, and my engagements since, have prevented an earlier answer to the several queries propounded. I will now endeavor to answer them, in the order of your note, as well as I can, from an experiment on three small lots, and for a single season. The wheat is of the bearded family, with a beautiful, clear, yellow straw, the meshes, I think, placed closer on the head than is usual in that variety; consequently, it gives a better yield from the straw, than a careless observer would suppose, from the length of the head. The grain may be called red, and of medium size, resembling very much the bearded Winter Wheat, common in our county.

In regard to soil, preparation, and time of sowing, I would remark, that in the experiments I have made I sowed at three times, and on different soils; first, on the last week of February, on a clover fallow, ploughed in the same month; then on a stiff clay, (without clover) about the 15th of March,—ground ploughed near the time of the first lot;—and at last a lot of corn land, of medium quality, ploughed the last week in March, and sowed as soon as ploughed. The corn lot gave much the best yield and best grain—standing well and free from injury of any kind until ripe.—The two first lots gave too luxuriant a growth—and the wheat fell before it was made—consequently the grain was somewhat shrivelled, but the straw was clean and free from rust. The quantity sown was about 1 1-2 busnels per acre, which I have no doubt was one-third too much, and the yield near 15 for one, on all the lots together, but considerably more on the corn land.—I cut the Spring Wheat, the day I finished cutting the winter grain, and my belief is, that in ordinary seasons, it will ripen in about the same time. As to its yield in flour, I cannot speak, not having any of the white varieties of Wheat, but that it will yield flour, in quantity and quality, equal to the bearded Winter Wheat, or any of the red wheat common amongst as. In answer to the query, "whether the grain can be advantageously substituted, in whole or in part for the common winter wheat,"—I have no hesitation in saying, that it should not be substituted in whole, but that I am of opinion that it may be advantageously substituted in part. I think that corn land is the best preparation, and that all, or so much of it as cannot be well prepared, and sowed in good time with winter Wheat, should be reserved for this crop. Every farmer will at once see how much such an arrangement would relieve him in his fall labors, and with what ease and how handsomely he could prepare his corn land for a spring crop, by removing the stalks off the land at his leisure in the winter to the barnyard.

Your last query is whether I have seed to dispose of. I have raised more than I wish to sow—*but* many persons have made application for seed, and until they call and receive what has been promised, I am unable to say how much I will have to spare.

It is my desire to dispose of it in small parcels, and to spread it as widely as possible, believing as I do, that it will be a valuable crop, particularly in situations, and on land subject to injary from the action of the frost,—I believe I nave answered all your queries, in a hasty and imperfect way to be sure; but I hope, that as other farmers in the neighborhood have tried the same crop, they will, through our paper, favor us with their experience and views, and thus any omission of mine will be supplied, or error into which I may have fallen, corrected.

Very Respectfully,
A. T. BARCLAY.

P. S. I ought to have stated that the seed procured from the North, had in it a considerable quantity of oats, and that I was not so particular as some others, who sowed less, in picking them out; consequently, there is still mixed with my wheat, some oats, but not so much as came in the seed.

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York, Pa., August 10, 1837.

E. P. Roberts, Esq.—Dear Sir,—You express a wish in your valuable paper of the 25th ult., to know the result of the culture of Spring Wheat in different parts of the country. Thinking that perhaps the experiment in this county might be of some advantage to the public, we give it so far as ascertained, with pleasure. Early last fall we ordered from different parts of New York about 100 bushels of the Italian, but succeeded in getting only 62 bushels.—This, with the exception of about ten bushels, (which we sowed ourselves) was sold in small quantities to the farmers in this county, and we are gratified to say it has succeeded far beyond the expectation of the most sanguine. It is generally better than the winter wheat. We find too, that it does not require so strong a soil. We have a lot of 4 acres, a thin chestnut soil, improved by lime and manure, which we think will give us 30 bushels to the acre. All

that we have heard of is free from mildew and rust, while a large portion of the winter wheat in this county was injured by it.

The demand already is considerable for seed.

Respectfully, Yours, &c.,

*Far. and Gard.*] P. A. & S. SMALL.

### Facts and Oeservations Respecting the Grain Worm and the Preparation of Seed Wheat.

Mr. Holmes:—Every thing that I can communicate on the subject of wheat, that you may think important, I will take the liberty to do through the columns of your useful paper. I hail the day when your paper was established as one all important to the agriculture of Maine, and I am in hopes that the balance in regard to bread-stuffs here, will be on the other side of the ledger in a few years. When I look upon what the State Legislature has done, I think I have reason to expect better days, not only for bread, but for every thing else.

A writer in the Farmer thinks that he has preserved his wheat from the ravages of the grain worm, by thoroughly cleansing the seed by means of a sieve made for the purpose, and sifting about a pint at a time. Another writer is of opinion that he saved his wheat by pounding a bushel of unslaked lime and sowing it on an acre. Another writer says that his wheat was much eaten, and he cut it and got it in green, and the heat of his wheat hatched the fly in the fall, and thousands were to be seen in all directions, and on the roof of his barn; and that he observed the same fly on his dung heaps in the spring.

I have sifted my seed wheat for a number of years, and washed it in a manner described by you in one of your numbers; limed it and let it lay in lime a day and a night before sowing, and I was not troubled with the grain worm during the last, nor in any former years, whilst my neighbors' wheat was much injured. I raised 150 bushels of good, clean, sound wheat free from the grain worm. I sowed on it five or six bushels to the acre, of leached ashes, after it was up.

I am told that Mr. Philbrick, of this town, sowed two pieces last year separated from each other by a three rod road—one was eaten, and the other was not. I was told that the same took place in Lewiston. I am told that James Curtis, Esq., of this town, purchased wheat to sow of Mr. Armstrong, which had been some eaten in 1835, and sowed it, after thorough cleansing, and raised wheat in 1836, free from the worm.

Mr. Editor: What are we to learn by the above facts? I learn,

1st. That the grain worm, or the fly that causes the grain worm, does not ramble enough in one year, to cross a three rod road, but is spread or communicated by manure.

2d. That it has been a number of years in coming from the South to this region.

3d. Cleanse your wheat and manure entirely, and you will have few or no grain worms.

4th. That the remedy to be used as a preventive, is just what we ought to use, if there was no grain worm in the world. ELIJAH WOOD.

Winthrop, 1837. [*Me. Farmer.*

### Economical Boiler.

We have examined an apparatus for the purpose of cooking by boiling or steaming in a very ingenious and simple manner. The plan was devised by Mr. Dimon B. Barnum of Connecticut, who has sold to Gen. Ladd of Hallowell, the right for the towns of Hallowell, Augusta, Gardiner, Winthrop and Readfield, with the right of Making them for the State—and is on the principle of the circulation of fluid when heated, and which has been adopted in some Green Houses. The apparatus is very simple, light and portable, and with a very few coals, heat sufficient is obtained to boil a large quantity of water. We understand the General designs to construct an apparatus whereby a large amount of roots, such as potatoes and turneps, for hogs and cattle.—We have no doubt that he will succeed and furnish a valuable article for farmers, and one which they very much need. We hope he will succeed.—*Me. Farmer.*

**A monstrous grape vine in Sandlake, Rens. Co., measures at the ground 33 inches, and 27 inches at the height of 15 feet.**

### Choice Collection of Fruit.

PEAR.

*The first* 18 *are summer, the second* 24 *Autumn, the third* 19 *winter pears, and the last six are Perry Pears.*

1. Musk Robine, *Poire a la Reine, La Princesse, Queen's Pear, Muscat Robert, Poire d'Ambre.*—Fruit small, and of yellow color; it ripens in July, and continues to the end of August; of a rich musky flavor, a great bearer and much esteemed dessert fruit.

2. London Sugar.—This fruit is below medium size; color greenish yellow, tinged with brown; form turbinate, narrowed at the crown; flesh tender, melting saccharine, of a rich musky flavor; an excellent early fruit, and very productive. Ripe in July.

3. Madeleine, *Magdalene Citron des Carmes, Early Chaumontelle.*—This pear is of medium size pale yellow, with an occasional blush next the sun; flesh white, melting, perfumed. A fine old fruit, ripe at the end of July.

4. Premature.—A new pear, about the size of the Crawford, but more juicy and delicious, and remarkably early; it commands a good price in the markets of Edinburgh, Scotland, and is reputed a most superior early fruit.

5. Jargonelle, *Epargne, Beau Present, Saint Samson, Grosse Cuisse Madame, Saint Lambert, Poire des Tables des Princes.*—Fruit rather large, oblong, of a pale green color; flesh melting, juicy, with a slightly acid, rich and agreeable flavor. It ripens early in August, is one of the most productive of all pears, and the very best in its season.

Cuisse Madame, *Epine d'Ete, Fondante Musque, Satin Vert, Satin Green.*—Fruit of smallish size; greenish yellow at maturity; pyramidal; flesh melting, juicy, musky, rich, and excellent. Ripe by the middle of August.

7. Green Chissel.—Fruit nearly globular; skin green, but slightly brown next the sun; flesh gritty, saccharine, a little perfumed; the fruit grows in clusters, and ripens early in August. The tree is of feeble growth, but very productive.

8. August Muscat, *Aurate, Muscat d'Aout, Musk, or Spice.*—Fruit of a medium size; turbinate flattened; color yellow, but light red next the sun; flesh breaking, saccharine and perfumed. It succeeds tolerably on the quince, and ripens early in August.

9. Cassolette, *Friolet, Lechefrion, Muscat Verd, Poire de Sillerie, Verdasse, Green Muscat.* A small pyriform fruit, of a bright green color, slightly red next the sun; flesh breaking, of a sweet and musky flavor; ripens in August.

10. Sabine d'Ete.—This pear is of pyramidal form, terminating in a round blunt point at the stalk; color yellow, but fine scarlet next the sun; the whole surface smooth, regular, and polished; flesh white, melting, juicy and highly perfumed; the tree is an abundant bearer, and ripens its fruit in August.

11. Seigneur d'Ete.—Fruit above the middle size; a blunt oval; color fine orange, but bright scarlet next the sun, and marbled; flesh melting, free from grit; a rich and beautiful pear. The tree is handsome, and bears well; its fruit ripens early in September.

12. Rousselet de Rheims, *Petit Rousselet.*—Fruit small pyramidal, greenish yellow at maturity, but brown red next the sun, with russetty spots; flesh half beurre, fine, very perfumed. Good to put in brandy, and to dry. Ripens end of August.

13. William's Bonchretien, *Bartlett.*—This fruit originated with a Mr. Wheeler, in Berkshire, England, but was subsequently extensively propagated by Mr. Williams, near London—hence its name. The fruit is large, oblong; the stalk thick and fleshy, an inch long; the color at maturity yellow, tinged with red; flesh whitish, very melting, and delicate; juice perfumed, sweet and abundant. Tree very productive, and fruit ripe by the end of August.

14. Windsor, *Cuisse Madame* of the French. A middle sized oblong pear; color green, but brownish red next the sun; half melting, sweet, a little musky, rather coarse; ripe by the end of August.

15. Summer Bonchretien, *Bonchretien d'Ete, Gracioli*, of the French. Fruit very large, irregular, knobby; skin smooth, of pale yellow color, but slightly red next the sun; flesh whitish yellow, firm and breaking; juice sweet and very agreeable. It ripens early in September.

16. Summer Bergamot, *Hamden's Bergamot, Milan Blanc, Bergamot d'Ete, Milan de la Beurriere.*—Fruit of a medium size, globular, depressed; color greenish yellow, russetted and speckled next the sun; flesh melting, juicy, saccharine, and high flavored. At maturity by the middle of September.

17. Dearborn's Seedling.—This new variety originated in the garden of the Hon. H. A. S. Dearborn, of Roxbury. The tree is of vigorous growth; fruit of medium size, rounded at the crown, and regularly diminishes in a parabolic manner to the stalk; the skin is smooth, thin green, with russet spots; at maturity it turns to a delicate yellow; flesh very melting. and of the finest flavor.

18. Julienne, of Coxe, *L'Archiduc D'Ete, Summer Beurre, Summer Doyenne, Summer St. Michael*, so called near Boston, *Bloodgood Pear* of New York. Fruit medium size, smooth, bright yellow at maturity, with a faint blush next the sun; form rather ovate, tapering towards the stalk; flesh perfectly melting, rich and juicy. The tree bears young, and most profusely, and matures its fruit early in September.

19. Autumn Colmar.—Fruit middle size, oblong; of a pale yellow color, with much thin russet next the sun; flesh rather gritty but mellow, with a sugary and slightly perfumed juice. A new, hardy Flemish variety, ripening its fruit early in October.

20. Belle et Bonne, *Schone und gute, Belle de Bruxelles.*—"A harvest pear, magnificent," very large, globular, depressed, the stalk long, skin greenish yellow, but next the sun yellow, with spots of russet; flesh white, sweet, exceeding rich and agreeably perfumed. The tree is very productive, and the fruit ripens in September.

21. Moor Fowl Egg.—Fruit small, globular, ovate, swollen in the middle, orange brown next the sun, with spots of russet; flesh yellowish white, a little gritty, tender, mellow, saccharine, a little perfumed. This is a hardy Scotch fruit; ripe end of September.

22. Bezy de Montigny, *Trouve de Montigny.*—Fruit medium size, pyramidal, compressed towards the summit; color yellow; flesh white, a little gritty, very melting; sweet, musky. It succeeds on the quince. Ripe in September.

23. Elton.—A pear of medium size, oval form, broadest towards the crown; color greenish russetty gray, but russetty orange next the sun; flesh breaking, and of an excellent flavor. Ripe in September.

24. Delices d'Ardenpont, *Delices d'Hardenpont de Toulouse.*—Fruit medium size; skin a little thick, smooth, green, but yellow at maturity; flesh white, nearly melting; juice pleasant, sweet, and abundant. Ripe in October.

25. Seckel.—An excellent native fruit, size varying from small to medium; color varying from yellowish to brownish russet; but generally red next the sun; flesh of a melting, spicy, and of a most extraordinary rich and delicious flavor; it ripens the middle of September, and the fruit grows in clusters, in great abundance.

26. Urbaniste.—The fruit is pyramidally ovate; skin pale green, inclining to yellow; flesh white, but reddish yellow next the core; it is quite melting, juicy, and very sweet, with a little perfume. It ripens from the middle of September to November.

27. Marie Louise.—Fruit oblong, tapering towards both ends; size varying from medium to large; skin nearly smooth, yellowish green, and cinnamon colored russet; flesh white, melting, juicy and rich. It ripens in October, and is described as an excellent fruit.

28. Doyenne Santelete.—A new, fine, handsome Flemish pear; fruit above the middle size, pyramidally oblong; skin pale green, speckled with gray russet; flesh white, a little gritty, but tender; juice saccharine, with a slight musky perfume. The tree is hardy, and ripens its fruit early in October.

29. Gray Doyenne, *Red Doyenne, Doyenne Gris, Doyenne Roux, Doyenne d'Automne.*—Fruit medium size; color bright crimson russet, but red next the sun; flesh yellowish white, melting saccharine, rich and of excellent flavor. Season, October and November.

30. Ashton Town.—The fruit is small, of a

greenish color, spotted with russet; the flesh is melting, high flavored, richly sugared and perfumed. It is in perfection in October and November.

31. Autumn Bergamot, *Common Bergamot, York Bergamot.*—Fruit globular, depressed, the skin rough, yellowish green, and dull brown; flesh pale, melting, juicy, sugary, and perfumed; ripe in September and October. A first rate pear.

32. Golden Beurre of Bilboa.—Fruit of medium size; oblong, color a bright golden yellow, with patches of russet; perfectly melting, and of fine flavor. A beautiful fruit, a great bearer, and worthy of cultivation.

33. Hacon's Incomparable.—Fruit middle sized, of pale yellow color, mixed with green, partially covered with orange russet; flesh yellowish white, slightly gritty, but very tender, juicy, sweet and rich; and possessing a high musky and perfumed flavor. The tree is a great bearer, and the fruit excellent, and is in perfection in November and December. A silver medal was given for a specimen of this fruit as a prize in England, 1830.

34. Duchess of Angouleme, *Duchesse d' Angouleme.*—A pear of first rate excellence. Form roundish, oblong, tapering towards the stalk; skin dull yellow, with broad russet patches; flesh rich melting, very juicy, and high flavored, with a most agreeable perfume. Specimens of this fruit have been seen in England, weighing twenty-two ounces. In perfection in November and December.

35. Green Sylvange, *Sylvange Vert, Bergamotte Sylvange.*—A most superior pear, above the medium size, of green color, skin rough, and speckled with gray or black. The flesh is greenish near the skin, white in the center, soft, saccharine and juicy. Fruit in perfection from October to January. The tree is a great bearer, and specimens of the fruit have been known to weigh thirteen ounces.

36. Bishop's Thumb.—Fruit over medium size, very oblong; it is twice as long as broad, and tapers to its summit; color dark green, and brownish red, with iron-colored russet; flesh yellowish green, melting, juicy, rich, and excellent, ripening in October.

37. Brown Beurre, *Beurre Rouge, Beurre d' Or, Beurre Doie, Beurre du Roi, Beurre d'Amboise, Isambert, Red Beurre, Golden Beurre.*—This was formerly considered the best of all pears. Fruit rather large, of greenish yellow, and dusky red color, covered with thin russet; flesh melting, buttery, rich and excellent. In perfection in October, and will often keep till January.

38. Princesse d'Orange, *Princess of Orange.* The fruit is roundish; the skin bright reddish orange russet; flesh yellowish white, sugary and rich, in some seasons perfectly melting, but occasionally a little gritty. A beautiful pear, and of good quality in October.

39. Swan's Egg.—Fruit small, oval, turbinate; color yellowish green, and dull russetty brown; flesh tender and melting, with a rich, saccharine, musky flavor. An excellent fruit, ripe in October. The tree is remarkably tall, upright, vigorous and productive.

40. Charles d'Autriche, *Charles of Austria.*—A fine and beautiful fruit, large, three and a half inches long, and three inches broad; color greenish yellow, with brown spots and partly russetted; flesh white, melting, juicy, and delicious. Ripe in October.

41. Gansel's Burgamot, *Broca's Burgamot, Ives' Burgamot, Bonne Rouge.*—Fruit varying from middle size to large; ovate, flattened; color dull green, slightly red next the sun; flesh white, melting, sweet, rich and high flavored. A delicious pear, ripe in October and good till Christmas.

42. Napoleon, *Medaille, Saurageon Liart.*—Fruit large, form of the Colmar; skin smooth; color bright green, but at maturity, pale green; flesh very melting, with an unusual abundance of rich agreeable juice. At perfection in October and November.

43. Buerre d'Aremberg, *Beurre d'Arembert, Duc d'Aremberg, Poire d'Aremberg, Beurre Deschamps, Beurre Orphelins of Deschamps.*—The English and French writers speak of this pear as one of the best in cultivation. The tree is a great bearer, comes early into cultivation, and the fruit will keep till March. Fruit large turbinate; skin of a delicate pale green dotted with russet, which becomes of a deeper yellow at maturity; flesh whitish, fine, very juicy, perfectly melting, and very extraordinary rich, sweet, high flavored, and excellent.

44. Easter Burgamot, *Bergamotte Bugi, Bergamotte de Paques, Bergamotte d'Hiver, La Grillieu, Paddington, Tarlin, Winter Bergamot.*—Fruit rather large, short, roundish turbinate, swollen at the crown; color yellow at maturity; half beurre; sweet and good. In perfection from December to May.

45. Francreal, *Fin, or d'Hiver, Francreal d' Hirer.*—The tree is very productive; it succeeds well on the quince; fruit globular; color yellowish green, but brownish red next the sun, and a little russetty; good to cook from October to midwinter.

46. Beurre Diel, *Diel's Butterbirne, Dorothee Royale, Beurre de Gelle, Beurre Royale, Poire de Melon.*—This ranks among the best of pears. The tree is of vigorous growth; fruit when in perfection, four inches long, and three inches broad; the skin at matutity is bright orange, with reddish russet; flesh clear white, tender, melting, and juicy, and of a delicious aromatic flavor; from November to January.

47. Beurre Rance, *Beurre Epine, Hardenpont de Printemps.*—This is said to be a first rate pear. The tree is vigorous and a good bearer; fruit middle sized, oblong; skin deep green; flesh green melting, having a delicious rich flavor, with very little acid. It shrivels in ripening, but will keep till April.

48. Gloria, *Colmar d'Hiver.*—A name implying every thing that is excellent. A melting pear of superior quality; shape varying from nearly globular to pear-shaped: color yellowish green, flesh firm, juicy, and of excellent flavor; at perfection in January and February.

49. Holland Bergamot, *Burgamotee d'Holland D'Alencon.*—Fruit very large, globular, but broadest at the crown, flattened; of greenish yellow color; flesh half breaking, juicy and high flavored; it keeps till May, and succeeds on the quince.

50. Saint Jermain, *Inconnue la Fare.*—This celebrated ancient fruit is large, of a green color, covered with russet spots; at maturity a yellowish cast; it ripens in November, and may be kept till March.

51. Monarch.—A new pear, considered by Mr. McKnight as without a rival. The tree is represented of rapid growth, and an abundant bearer; fruit large, of an extraordinary musky flavor, and deemed excellent for perry. Season in England, December and January.

52. Colmar, *Poire Manne. Bergamotte Tardive, Incomparable.*—This fruit is rather large; skin smooth, of a green color, changing to a yellow at maturity; form pyramidal; flesh melting, juicy, saccharine, and of excellent flavor; the fruit is in perfection from November to February.

53. Easter Buerre, *Bergamotte de la Pentecote, Beurre d'Hiver de Bruxelles, Doyenne d'Hiver, de Bruxelles, Bezi Chaumontelle Tres Gros.*—Of all the late keeping pears, this is considered the best, (for England.) Fruit large roundish, oblong; color green, but yellow at maturity, with specks of russet brown; flesh yellowish white, perfectly buttery and melting, and extremely high flavored; it is eatable in November, and will keep till May; it is a most profuse bearer, on a quince stock.

54. Passe Colmar, *Fondante de Panisel, Passe Colmar Gris dit Precel, Poire Precel, Passe Colmar Epineux, Beurre Colmar Gris dit Precel, Buerre d'Argenson, Chapmans.*—A most valuable pear, of medium size, conical, flattened next the eye; skin at maturity yellowish, sprinkled with russet; a tinge of red next the sun; flesh yellowish, melting, juicy, and excellent. The tree is a good bearer, and the fruit is in perfection from November to February.

55. Flemish Bon Chretien, *Bon Chretien Nouvelle Espece.*—Fruit large, oblong, turbinate; skin at maturity yellow, mottled with russet next the sun; flesh yellowish white, breaking, a little gritty, but mellow at maturity; juice saccharine, with a slight musky perfume; season from November till February.

56. Glot Morceau, *Gloux Morceaux.*—A very large Belgic varieto; of great excellence; fruit of ovalish form, pale green color, inclining to yellow; with russetty specks and blotches; flesh whitish, firm, very juicy and excellent; in perfection from November to March.

57. Poire de Anana, *Poire d'Ananas.*—A new Flemish variety, held in high esteem; a winter fruit, of medium size, very handsome, melting, with a pine apple flavor, (hence its name Ananas;) ripening in November and good till March. The tree is of dwarfish habits, and flowering freely, and at the extremity of the branches.

58. Winter Bonchretien, *Bonchretien d'Hiver, Poire d'Angoise.*—Very large, color at maturity yellow, with a light stain of red next the sun; form truncated or pyramidal; flesh breaking, rather sweet and juicy. This variety, though enormously large, is very liable to crack, but is sometimes preserved sound till May.

59. Chaumontel, *Bezy de Chaumontelle, Beurre d'Hiver.*—This noble old variety is a fruit varying in size, from large to very large; its color at maturity yellow, tinged with red next the sun; its form variable; flesh melting, juicy, sweet, musky, excellent; season from November to February.

60. Cardinale, *Poire d'Admiral, Admiral.*—The tree is of medium vigor; its young wood of medium size, and of a red color; a superb oblong pear, of a pyramidal form; yellow in the shade, but beautiful red next the sun; flesh white, half melting, coarse grained, but very juicy, sweet and agreeable; it keeps till March, and merits to be better known.

61. Governor Stuyvesant.—This pear took its name from its having been first cultivated at Stuyvesant's farm on New York Island. The original tree is now upwards of 200 years old, and produces fruit of a medium size, of a greenish yellow color, juicy, sweet, aromatic and excellent.

62. Barland.—This variety took its name from the original tree, growing in a field called Bare Lands, in Herefordshire, England. The fruit is smallish, of ovate form; skin dull green, russetted with gray. It is deemed excellent for perry. Specific gravity of its juice 1070.

63. Holmore.—Fruit small, globular; skin of a dingy yellowish green, tinged with red. Excellent perry is made of this variety in Herefordshire, England. Specific gravity of its juice 1066.

64. Huffcap.—There are several varieties of pears bear this name, but the best perry is made of the true Herefordshire Huffcap. The fruit is middle sized, of pale green color, marked with gray russet. Specific gravity of its juice 1070.

65. Oldfield.—Fruit below the middle size, of pale green color, with russetty spots. An excellent perry fruit. Specific gravity of its juice 1067.

66. Loncland.—Fruit very handsome, much like the swan's egg in shape; skin bright gold color, tinged and mottled with a russetty lively orange; specific gravity of its juice 1063. The tree is handsome and upright, and much cultivated in Herefordshire for perry.

67. Teinton Squash.—Fruit middle sized, of angular shape; skin a muddy russetty green, marbled with dull orange, interspersed with ash colored specks. It originated in Teinton, Gloucestershire, and the perry made from this fruit is of the very highest quality, something approaching in color and briskness to champagne, for which fine samples of it have sometimes been sold.

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### Bees.

We have often marvelled that our New England Farmers do not pay more attention to the rearing of bees. The produce of these industrious insects is far more profitable than many persons may be inclined to imagine, and the little time which is necessary to bestow upon them is seldom uselessly employed. They will always thrive in the vicinity of fields of clover and flower gardens—and while the product of their labors will furnish no inconsiderable profit in a pecuniary point of view, the example of industry, which will thus be constantly placed before the younger portion of the community, may have the most beneficial effects. We lately met with the following anecdote, showing some of the advantages which may arise from keeping bees:—*Bos. Mer. Jour.*

"A French bishop being about to make his annual visitation, sent word to a certain curate, whose ecclesiastical benefice was rather trifling, that he meant to dine with him; at the same time requesting that he would not put himself to any extraordinary expense. The curate promised to attend to the bishop's suggestion, but he did not keep his word

for he provided a most sumptuous entertainment. His lordship was much surprised, but could not helpcensuring the conduct of the curate, observing that it was highly ridiculous in a man whose circumstances were so narrow, to launch out into such expense, nay almost to dissipate his entire income in a single day. 'Do not be uneasy on that score, my lord,' replied the curate 'for I assure you that what you now see is not the product of my curacy, which I bestow exclusively upon the poor.' 'Then you have a patrimony, sir!'—said the bishop. 'No sir.' 'You speak in riddles: how do you then do?' 'My lord, I have a convent of young damsels here, who do not let me want for any thing.' 'How! you have a convent!—I did not know that there was one in this neighborhood, This is all very strange,very unaccountable, Mr. Curate.' 'You are jocular, my lord.' 'But come, sir, I entreat that you would solve the enigma : I would fain see the convent.' 'So you shall, my lord, after dinner, and I promise your lordship shall be satisfied with my conduct.'

Accordingly when dinner was over the curate conducted the prelate to a large enclosure, entirely occupied by bee-hives, and pointing to the latter, observed, 'this my lord, is the convent which gave us our dinner; it brings me in about 1800 livres per annum, upon which I live very comfortably, and with which I contrive to entertain my guests genteelly.' The surprise and satisfaction of the bishop at this discovery may easily be conceived. The sequel of the story informs us that afterwards whenever a curate made application to his lordship for an improved living, he would only reply *'keep bees—keep bees."*

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*From the Connecticut Observer.*

AGRICULTURE, &c.—If one consequence of the present "pressure" shall be to engage men more generally in agricultural pursuits, surely our sorrow will endure but for a short night and joy will come in the morning. Though it be ordained that by the sweat of his brow the farmer shall obtain his bread, yet his health and happiness are greatly promoted by the same wise provision, and no other occupation will ensure for him the same independence and ease of mind. The eyes of this class of men have been too much attracted by the false show of ease and success which appear to attend those engaged in *other* pursuits. They have seen them rise apparently without labor or much exertion to high stations, or to the possession of wealth, but they have not noted those who were disappointed: nor have they seen the sacrifice of principle, the loss of peace and health, the harrowing uncertainty, the wear of body and spirit with which in many cases that honor or wealth has been purchased. Owing to this cause we have now a superabundance of professional men and merchants, whose talents would not be sufficiently brillant to enable them to rise to eminence if their services were required by the community, but who, as the case is, must resort to shifts to obtain a livelihood,—while had they remained at home, tillers of the soil, they might have been happy and useful. We would not insinuate that there are too many clergymen in our country, but surely one destined for the sacred office should be in intellect a *man* and "thoroughly furnished unto good works."

The articles which have appeared in the Observer respecting the dignity of agriculture, urging our farmers to decorate their dwellings and the contiguous grounds, and to mingle more in rural sports, deserve attention. Why may not all the farm houses in our country present a light and neat appearance? Why may we not see the woodbine and honeysuckle encircling them, and the rose and other garden flowers blooming around them? Why should not the fair daughters of New-England farmers turn their attention to this matter; and ceasing to imitate the imported follies of our city fashionables, bestow some of their time upon the delightful and healthful employment of rearing and training flowers: tracing in them the wonderful evidences of the Creator's goodness and wisdom; acquiring a love for what is beautiful in nature; and thus while they add to the pleasure of others, increase their own charms of body and mind? It is elevating and ennobling to study nature as displayed in our gardens and fields. Food for abundant meditation lies hid in all vegetable productions, and those who expose to view in an attractive manner the beauties with which our earth is or may be clothed, besides opening a source of enjoyment to themselves, do something to improve the tastes, and perchance the hearts of others.

Agricultural pursuits are certainly not inconsistent with high attainments in science, for no class of men have such opportunities of becoming *practically* scientific as husbandmen. A regard to their pecuniary interest alone should lead them to some acquaintance with Geology, Mineralogy, Chemistry, &c.

It is to be lamented that our young men of all classes are not better acquainted with the political history and constitution of our country. Those who exercise the privileges of freemen and to whom the highest offices are open should feel their accountability to vote or legislate *undrstandingly*.

Physiology is a study that would also be very serviceable to young husbandmen. Is it not true of us as a nation that we are prematurely shriveled and bowed down? How seldom do we see, especially among women, a good specimen of the human form at middle age:—and is it not owing mainly to the neglect of proper physical and mental culture? Having at our command the means of obtaining not only a subsistence, but a competency, and finding the field of enterprise before us almost boundless,we devote our energies of mind and body untiringly to the pursuit of wealth,until mind and body fail. Unlike most other nations we have no artificial distinctions of society through which we cannot break; hence we are seldom contented. It would be more becomining us to moderate our desires,and endeavor to derive some rational enjoyment rom life as it passes away. Doubtless it is wrong and sinful to neglect our proper business, but it is also wrong to neglect attention to health, and the cultivation of a cheerful disposition. The exercise of temperance, *simplicity* in diet, a moderate indulgence in athletic sports, the study of the word and works of God and of the beautiful in nature and art, crowned with profession and *practice* of the christain religion, would go far to make our agricultural population the happiest people on earth.

Among other sources of enjoyment that of music performed in the open air would not be the least, if properly cultivated. A collection of secular music called the Odeon might be serviceable for this purpose. It is a recreation in which both sexes can engage, but none should attempt to sing who have not a good knowledge of the rudiments of music. In almost every village, at least one good performer on the flute can be found, and a sufficient number of singers to form a good choir. A suitable grove is always at hand,in which they could assemble—and many who could not sing would doubtless be glad to listen. Let but the experiment be tried and it will prove not only a means of happiness but of improvement. The effect of such meeting if properly conducted, would be highly beneficial to the manners and feelings. The time of assembling would be anticipated with interest and delight; the shady retreat dedicated to harmony and concord would be left with regret, and the hours there spent would never be recalled in after life but with a thrill of pleasure.

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**Berkshire & Lincolnshire Pigs for sale.**

I HAVE a considerable number of late Spring and Summer Berkshire Pigs, crossed with the Lincolnshire, for sale at Whitney's Distillery in the city of Rochester. The character of the Berkshire breed is somewhat known in this country. I believe the Lincolnshire is but very little, if any. I consider the above cross superior to any breed of hogs in America, far before the *China* or any cross with them, which are nothing more nor less than our *little* short coarse-haired grass breed. I have a pig of the above breed that was four months old the 20th of this month. It was put in a pen alone seven weeks ago, it has been well attended to, the result is that the pig gained from 9 to 11 pounds per week.

P S The Lincolnshire breed was imported by Gov. Maitland of Upper Canada. AMOS SAWYER.

Rochester, Aug. 26, 1837. aug 28-t7tr3t

**Fruit Trees For Sale.**

THE subscriber respectfully informs his friends and the public that he has for sale at his Nursery in Rochester, Monroe county, state of New York, a large quantity of Fruit Trees, grafted and innoculated with the most approved kinds, now fit for transplanting, which he will sell on the most reasonable terms. SAMUEL MOULSON.

apr 15-tf


**LIST OF PAYMENTS FOR THE FARMER,**

*From June 15, to September 1, 1837.*

*For Vol. 2.*
James Heamans.
*For Vol. 3.*
John Tingby,
James Heamans,
James L Monier.
*For Vol. 4.*
John Tingby,
James Heamans,
James L. Monier.
*For half of Vol. 5*
Warren Patchen,
John Morris.
*For Vol. 5.*
Isaac Townsend,
R. H. Rose,
James Crooks,
Martin Springer,
James L. Monier,
John N. Rose,
S. D. Pierce,
William Williams,
Avery Lewis,
John Scott,
R. H. Foster,
S. H. McKnight.
*For Vol. 6.*
Harvey Rhoades,
Martin Friedenburg,
H ram Soverhill,
Jesse Ketchum,
J. H. Pegler,
Theodore Sedgwick,
N. H. Gardner,
Elias J. Ayers,
Henry Post,
Warren Patchen,
Isaac Townsend,
James Heamans,
R. H. Rose,
Lincoln Fay,
James Crooks,
Martin Springer,
James L. Monier,
John N. Rose,
C. Hammond,
John Morris,
William Williams,
John Scott,
R. H. Foster,
S. H. McKnight.
S. D. Pierce.

*For half of Vol. 6.*
S. W. Caldwell,
B. M. Root.
*For Vol. 7.*
Jacob S. Willetts,
Josiah Fox,
R. J. Curtis,
James Thompson,
Charles Ames,
Newton Sheldon,
Wm. Rogers,
Tabor Ward,
James S. Benton,
James Sinclair,
Pierce Butler,
John Bennett,
Wentel Willoughby,
James Wallace,
Robert Forbes,
Cyrenus Smally,
Jesse Ketchum,
A. Hollister,
Thomas Foster,
Consider Warner,
Timothy Fitch,
Wm. R. Macey,
John W. Jenkins, jr.
Alex. Robinson,
Theodore Sedgwick,
Alex. Ross,
Saxton & Butterfield,
Elias Halsey,
N. H. Gardner,
James Heamans,
Lincoln Fay,
Isaac Pixley,
Ezra Dorsey,
Cleveland Ellis,
Jabez Hall,
Henry Jessup,
Joseph Clay,
Samuel Gamble,
William Yates,
Samuel Goodwin,
Joel Willson,
B. M. Root,
J. C. Lord,
Wm. Ketchum,
Geo. Rockwell,
John D. Coe.
*First half of Vol. 7.*
Rufus Sheldon,
Harvey Rhoades,
W. Brooke King,
Thomas C. Hance,
Martin Friedenburg
Amos Dawley,
Wm. Slade,
John Hunt,
S. W. Caldwell,
Jonathan Burt,
Henry Post,
Warren Patchen,
C. Hammond,
John Morris,
S.D.Pierce, to no 14,
J. Scott, to no 20.
*For last half Vol. 7*
Elijah Doane,
Almon Peckham,
John Pontius,
John Summers,
Ebenezer Bowen,
Jared Patchen,
John McGill,
Andrew Geddes,
Jacob Fox,
Silas Corey,
S. W. Sholter,
Geo. R. Pardee,
Ambrose Burr.
*For Vol. 8*
Jared Patchen,
Lincoln Fay,
Wm, Yates,
B. M. Root, to no 40.
*For half Vol. 8.*
Elijah Doane,
Almon Peckham,
James Sinclair,
John Bennett,
Wentel Willoughby,
John Summers,
John McGill,
J. S. Hovey,
Andrew Geddes,
Jacob Fox,
W. H Gardner,
S. W. Sholter,
Geo. R. Pardee,
Ambrose Burr.
*For half Vol. 9.*
Wm. Yates.


**Berkshire and China Pigs for sale.**

THE subscriber has a considerable number of the pure Berkshire and China Pigs on sale at his residence on the Niagara river, 2 miles below the *B*lack Rock mills. *He* has also crosses of the *B*erkshire and China, and the China with the long English breed which are equally quiet in their habits, and possess the same tendency to fattening as the former, and have much the advantage in size. The character of these breeds are so well known throughout the state that any description would be superfluous; they are the choicests breeds in England,and the only kind used,by their best farmers, and it is believed the same quantity of food will make from 25 to 75 per cent. more pork in these hogs than if fed to the ordinary breeds.

PRICES.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Pure China or cross of China with the long Eng. lish per pair at 4 weeks old, | | | $12 00 |
| do. do. do. 6 weeks old, | | | 15 00 |
| Cross of China & Berkshire, per pair at 4 weeks old, | | | 14 00 |
| do. do. do | 6 | do | 18 00 |
| Pure Berkshire, | do. 4 | do. | 15 00 |
| do. | do. 6 | do. | 20 00 |

Communications made through the post office, should be directed to Buffalo.

june3ftf A. B. ALLEN.

**Improved Cultivators.**

JUST received from Albany, a few of Bement's Expanding Horse Hoes or Cultivator, with extra mouldboards, &c. complete. These are the most approved and perfect implements of the kind now in use, and deserve the particular attention of Genesee Agriculturists.

REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Rochester Seed Store, June 29, 1337.


**ELECTION NOTICE.**—*Sheriff's Office, Monroe County, Rochester, August 8th,* 1837.—A General Election is to be held in the county of Monroe on the 6th, 7th and 8th days of November next, at which will be chosen the officers mentioned in the notice from the Secretary of State, of which a copy is annexed. ELIAS POND, Sheriff.

*State of New-York, Secretary's Office, Albany, August 1st,* 1837.—Sir: I hereby give you notice that at the next General Election in this State to be held on the 6th, 7th and 8th days of November next, a Senator is to be chosen in the Eighth Senate District in the place of Albert H. Tracy, whose term of service will expire on the last day of December next.

JOHN A. DIX,
Secretary of State.

To the Sheriff of the County of Monroe.

N. B. The Inspectors of Election in the several towns in your county will give notice of the election of Members of Assembly, and for filling any vacancies in County offices which may exist. aug 8-arf

### Conversation.

There is nothing more grating to the man of intelligence than the foolish and trifling conversation which prevails in the various intercourses of social life, even among the middling and the higher circles of society, and in convivial associations. The ribaldry and vulgarity, the folly and nonsense, with the many degrading methods of 'killing time,' and the laughter of fools which too frequently distinguish such associations, are a disgrace to our civilized condition, and to our moral and intellectual nature.—Without supposing that it will ever be expedient to lay aside cheerfulness and rational mirth, the lively smile or even the loud laugh, it is surely conceivable, that a more rational and improving turn might be given to general conversation than what is frequently exemplified in our social intercourses. And what can we suppose better calculated to accomplish this end than the occasional introduction of topics connected with science and general knowledge, when all, or the greater part, are qualified to take a share in the general conversation? It would tend to stimulate the mental faculties, to suggest useful hints, to diffuse general information, to improve science and art, to excite the ignorant to increase in knowledge, to present interesting objects of contemplation, to enliven the spirits, and thus to afford a source of rational enjoyment. It would also have a tendency to prevent those shameful excesses, noisy tumults, and scenes of *intemperance* which so frequently terminate our festive entertainments. For want of qualifications for such, conversation cards, dice, childish questions and amusements, gossiping chitchat, and tales of scandal are generally resorted to, in order to consume the hours allotted to social enjoyment. And how melancholy the reflection, that rational beings capable of investigating the laws and phenomena of the universe, and of prosecuting the most exalted range of thought, and who are destined to exist in other worlds, throughout an endless duration—should be impelled to resort to such degrading expedients, to wheel away the social hours!

*Domestic enjoyment may likewise be heightened and improved* by the studies to which we have adverted. For want of qualifications for rational conversation, a spirit of listlessness and indifference frequently insinuates itself into the intercourses of families, and between married individuals, which sometimes degenerates into fretfulness and impatience, and even into jars, contentions, and violent altercations; in which case there can never exist any high degree of affection or domestic enjoyment. It is surely not unreasonable to suppose, that were the minds of persons in the married state possessed of a certain portion of knowledge, and endowed with a relish for rational investigations—not only would such disagreeable effects be prevented, but a variety of positive enjoyments would be introduced. Substantial knowledge, which leads to the proper exercise of the mental powers, has a tendency to meliorate the temper, and to prevent those ebullitions of passion, which are the results of vulgarity and ignorance. By invigorating the mind, it prevents it from sinking into peevishness and inanity. It affords subjects for interesting conversation, and augments affection by the reciprocal interchanges of sentiment and feeling, and the mutual communication of instruction and entertainment. And in cases where malignant passions are ready to burst forth, rational arguments will have a more powerful influfluence in arresting their progress, in cultivated minds, than in those individuals in whose constitution animal feeling predominates, and reason has lost its ascendency. As an enlightened mind is generally the seat of noble and liberal sentiments—in those cases where the parties belong to different religious sectaries, there is more probability of harmony and mutual forbearance being displayed, when persons take an enlarged view of the scenes of creation, and the revelations of the Creator, than can be expected in the case of those whose faculties are immersed in the mists of superstition and ignorance.

How delightful an enjoyment is it, after the bustle of business and the labors of the day are over,—when a married couple can sit down at each corner of the fire, and with mutual relish and interest, read a volume of history or of popular philosophy, and talk of the moral government of the world, the arrangements of Providence, and the wonders of the universe! Such interesting conversations and exercises beget a mutual esteem, enliven the affections, and produce a friendship, lasting as our existence, and which no untoward incidents can ever effectually impair—*Dick on the Improvement of Society.*

### Silk in the United States.

There is not a State in the Union that has not engaged in the propagation of the *mulberry*, and the culture of *silk*; private experience has elicited public attention. The Legislatures of several of the States have incorporated companies with large capitals, for the growth and manufacturing of silk. By an act of the Legislature of Maine, a bounty of five cents on every pound of cocoons grown, and fifty cents on every pound of silk reeled, is paid from the State treasury. The Legislature of Massachusetts, for the encouragement of the growth of silk, is of the most liberal character. The bounty on all silk grown reeled and throwed in the Commonwealth is $2 a pound, which is considered by silk-growers to be sufficient to defray all expenses attending its growing, reeling and throwing.

The following account may give the reader an imperfect idea of the amount of capital invested in the culture of silk, which are gather from Hon. Andrew T. Judson's report to Hon. J. Q. Adams, chairman of committee on Manufactures—viz:

| | |
|---|---|
| New Hampshire, | $75,000 |
| Massachusetts, | 240,000 |
| Rhode Island, | 100,000 |
| Connecticut, | 50,000 |
| New Jersey, | 30,000 |
| Virginia, | 15,000 |
| Ohio, | 650,000 |
| | $1,160,000 |

Making the round sum of one million one hundred and sixty thousands dollars, which sum we consider *minus* the actual capital 100 per cent, and omissions are made in New York, Pennsylvania and many of the other states, by not having any accurate knowledge of the amount of incorparated companies. Mr. J. remarks;—"could a general diffusion of practical knowledge on the subject of cultivating the tree and rearing the worm, be effected, I have no doubt the United States, would finally become one of the greatest Silk growing countries in the world." Who for a moment can doubt, the fact of the United States being, both in soil, and climate, well adapted to the silk culture, when fabrics of an excellent quality have been produced in most of the States; or who, for a moment, can doubt the utility of this magnanimous undertaking, when we learn that the importations of manufactured Silks, during the year ending the 30th September, 1836, was seventeen millions four hundred and ninety-seven thousand nine hundred dollars.—*Tennessee Farmer.*

The ancient Romans so highly esteemed the employment of agriculture, that the highest praise they could bestow upon a man, was to say that he cultivated his own lands. Their greatest and most illustrious men in the early ages of the Republic devoted their time to this occupation—that is to say, they were farmers. Their greatest generals, likewise, during the intervals of peace, were in this habit, and prided themselves upon tilling the soil. In republican American this useful art seems to be undervalued, because it is not sufficiently splendid; it is not so eligible for ambitious young men, who look to their employment and to their emoluments for their reputation. We would say to them, however, if they are desirous of a steady increase of wealth, let them till the soil; if they are desirous for a good and unenvied reputation, let them be farmers. It is idle to suppose that a young man who is concerned in trade is really any more respectable in this community than one who is engaged in agriculture or a mechanical art. The great majority of the people of this commonwealth are sufficiently intelligent yet to estimate an individual according to his personal merits, rather than by this occupation and calling, and if any occupation be more respectable than others, it ought surely to be that which has been the favorite and the professional occupation of some of the greatest men in all ages. And this can surely be said of agriculture more than of any other private employment. Some of the greatest philosophers have written upon agriculture, and some of the greatest of heroes have practised it with their own hands.—*Boston Statesman.*

SINGULAR INSTANCES OF LONGEVITY.—No less than thirteen of the fifty-six Signers of the Declaration of American Independence, reached the age of eighty years, and upw rds, viz:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Charles Carroll, of Maryland, | 95 |
| William Ellery, of Rhode-Island, | 93 |
| John Adams, of Massachusetts, | 91 |
| Samuel Adams, do | 81 |
| Robert Treat Paine, do | 83 |
| Benjamin Franklin, do | 84 |
| William Williams, Connecticut, | 81 |
| William Floyd, of Long-Island, | 87 |
| Thomas M'Kean, of Pennsylvania, | 83 |
| Thomas Jefferson, of Virginia, | 83 |
| George Wythe, do | 80 |
| Matthew Thorton, of Ireland, | 89 |
| Francis Lewis, of South-Wales, | 90 |
| Total, | 1120 |

Being an average of 86 years and 2 months each, and the aggregate excess of the "time-honored thirteen" over four score is just eighty years. No deliberate assembly of equal magnitude was, ever more remarkable for the virtue, temperance, and longevity of its members, than the one which declared the American colonies free and independent.—*Boston Courier.*

GREAT BIRD CAGE IN CHINA.—W. Beals, the owner of the garden, is an English gentleman, who has spent the last thirty years of his life in collecting all that is rare and beautiful. Of flowers I am disappointed; indeed, I have seen none in China equal to ours. His camelias were, however, very splendid, and one variety which I never saw before.—But the birds—the birds—yes, my eyes have really seen the beautiful BIRD OF PARADISE in all the radiance of its plumage. There were more than two hundred varieties of the most beautiful and rare birds, such as I thought could not exist but in fancy. The manner in which his aviary is arranged would delight you. From the summit of two immense rocks he has thrown a fine wire grating, embracing in its extent four or five large trees, (completely *overtopped* by the grating,) and an artificial brook and fountain. In this large aviary all the birds are placed at freedom. It is a most beautiful sight to see them, of such varied hues all sporting in their lovely abode; some rioting on the trees, singing most sweetly; others walking slowly under their shades, and again others playing in the fountain, sailing gracefully along, or diving and shaking their wings."—*Extract from a letter.*

HOGS.—The *Cincinnatti Post* states that a large contract for hogs to be delivered the coming fall, has been made at $2 50 cents per hundred. As the price of corn always regulates that of pork, a surer index could not be desired than the above fact furnishes, to determine two important points—first, that the corn crops are universally looked upon as promising abundant products—and secondly, that a greatly reduced price will consequently be obtained for the article. The demand for it the approaching season, will be materially decreased in the south and southwest; for many planters on hearing of the great fall in the price of cotton, ploughed up portions of their cotton grounds and put them in corn. This will cut off from the corn growers of the western and Atlantic states, some of their nearest and best markets for the time being; but the growing of corn in the cotton regions of our land can only obtain while the price of the latter article is depressed, as when its market value is at the prices recently maintained, planters would not dream of growing their bread stuffs.

**WILLIAM ATKINSON,** *LAND AGENT,* 1 Exchange-street, Rochester. ☞ Farms for sa
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